661 MVD employee and he became engaged to her. The
668 engagement party was attended by several dozen top officials, including Chairman of the County Executive Committee, the Prosecutor, the Komsomol Chairman, MVD officials, etc. At an opportune moment, the lone guerrilla liquidated the entire group of Soviet satraps, with the exception of the guest musician. Similar incidents occurred elsewhere, and the Russians now avoid gathering in such groups, unless under strong escort.

Desecration of patriots' corpses continues. Bodies are dumped in market places. Crosses and Lithuanian insignia are cut on the bodies by bayonets and scythes, rosaries "rein" the mouths, eyes are gouged, sexual organs mutilated. Bodies lie in decomposed state for weeks, as the Russians kick and spit on the bodies, dance around them, etc.

Banditry by Russian troops and militia is restrained by the guerrilla units protecting the inhabitants. For over a year Russian bandit gangs of army deserters posed a serious problem but these were eventually destroyed by the guerrillas.

The resistance movement embraces the entire country, although degree of organization differs from place to place. The Russian campaign for a memorial thanking Stalin for the "liberation" failed miserably. Lately, however, to minimize the reprisals, the underground instructed people to report to polling places and to pay lip service to "father of nations," "the great teacher and leader, protector of the working people of the world, Stalin The Sun."

668 Liaison with the underground forces in the neighboring countries is rendered difficult by the extreme nationalism of the Poles and Whiteruthenians. Collaboration is limited to specific objectives, such as assistance for passage of envoys. The underground in Poland is not unified, and there had been cases of betrayal by rival factions. Excellent contact is maintained with the Latvians and Ukrainians. Overtures from "Russian underground sources" were deliberately ignored as too risky—the Russians are so thoroughly cowed by three decades of terror and informer network that no Russian is deemed reliable.

Administration

• 645 The "boss" of the country is a satrap of the Kremlin—comrade *Shcherbakov,* titled All-Union Communist Party's/bolshevik Plenipotentiary for Lithuania.

In addition to comrade Justas "President" Paleckis, Chairman of the Praesidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR, the Council of Ministers is made up of the following nominal heads:

Prime Minister—Mečys Gedvila (Lithuanian);

Deputy Premiers—First Deputy Pisaryov, Second Deputy Sokolov, Third Deputy Mamayev (all 3 Russians);

Council's Secretary—S. Pupeikis (Lithuanian);

Minister of Food Industry—K. Andrijaitis (Lithuanian);

Minister of Local Industry—S. Shkodin (Russian);

Minister of Fishing Industry—Andrei Zasypkin (Russian) was summarily dismissed "for inefficiency" 3 February 1949 and replaced by an unknown, "V. Mickevičius";

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Minister of Cattle Industry—V. Augustinaitis (a Russian alien of distant Lithuanian ancestry);
Minister of Construction Materials Industry—M. Lyubimtsev (Russian);
Minister of Meat and Dairy Industry—J. Čygas (Lithuanian);
Minister of Forestry Industry—Ponomarev (Russian);
Minister of Heavy Industry—Teodin (Russian);
Minister of Agriculture—V. Vildžiūnas (Lithuanian);
Minister of Communal Economy—A. Sveschov (Russian);
Minister of Social Security—J. Stimburys (Lithuanian);
Minister of Health Protection—S. Banaitis (Lithuanian);
Minister of National Feeding—Laurinaitis (Lithuanian);
Minister of the Interior (MVD)—General Bartašiūnas (Russian under an alias);
Minister of State Security (MGB)—D. Yefimov (Russian);
Minister of Technical Cultures—V. Aleknavičius (Lithuanian);
Minister of Commerce—A. Ivalkevičius (Lithuanian);
Minister of Education—Vladas Niunka (Lithuanian, replaced J. Žiugžda);
Minister of Finance—A. Drobnys (Lithuanian);
Minister of Foreign Affairs—Ignas Galka on 27 January 1949 replaced Povilas Ratomskis (Lithuanian);
Chairman of State Planning Commission—Šumauskas (Lithuanian);
First Secretary of the Communist Party/bolshevik of Lithuania—Antanas Sniečkus (all other secretaries are Russians).

Comrade Suslov was promoted to a post in Moscow. Wherever "Ministers" are Lithuanians, the entire business is transacted by their Russian "Deputies." Proceedings of the "Cabinet" are conducted in Russian exclusively, but decrees of the "Party and Government" are published in two languages.

Regardless of the "Constitutional Amendments" of 1944 authorizing "Union Republics" to form national ministries of armed forces and foreign affairs—there is no national Soviet Lithuanian army and no ministry of war. A ministry of foreign affairs exists on paper as a propaganda measure: the policy is transacted by Moscow and the ministry of the Lithuanian SSR is lodged in two rooms adjoining the MVD headquarters. The "minister" Ratomskis, a former clerk of the Soviet Consulate General in New York, was assisted by several Russian clerks. Žiugžda, son of the former education minister, formally trained in Moscow for a diplomatic post in Washington, still walks the streets of Kaunas.

In the upper posts of the administration, the Lithuanians occupy roughly 30%. In the lower posts, the ratio is roughly 50/50. In the cities, Russians and Jews predominate; in rural areas—Lithuanians. In the MVD, the upper personnel is exclusively Russian, in the lower echelons there are natives and interpreters. In the MGB service, the natives make up 10%.

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643 644 Extraordinary sessions are convened by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR at its discretion or on the demand of one-third of the deputies to the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR.

Art. 29. The Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR elects the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR, consisting of a President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR, two Vice-Presidents, a Secretary of the Presidium and eleven members of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR.

Art. 30. The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR is accountable to the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR for all its activities.

643 Art. 31. The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR:

a) Convenes the sessions of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR;

b) Issues decrees;

c) Gives interpretations of the laws of the Lithuanian SSR in operation;

d) Conducts nation-wide polls (referendums);

● 643 e) Annuls decisions and orders of the Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR, and likewise decisions and orders of the district Soviets of Working People's Deputies, if they do not conform to law;

f) In the intervals between sessions of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR, releases and appoints Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR, on the recommendation of the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR, subject to subsequent confirmation by the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR;

g) Confers titles of honour of the Lithuanian SSR;

h) Exercises the right of pardoning citizens convicted by judicial organs of the Lithuanian SSR;

i) Appoints and recalls diplomatic representatives of the Lithuanian SSR to foreign states;

j) Receives the letters of credence and recall of diplomatic representatives accredited to it by foreign states.

646 Art. 32. The Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR elects a Credentials Committee to verify the credentials of the members of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR.

On the report of the Credentials Committee, the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR decides whether to recognize the credentials of deputies or to annul their election.

Art. 33. The Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR, when it deems necessary, appoints commissions of investigation and audit in any matter.

It is the duty of all institutions and officials to comply with the demands of such commissions and to submit to them all necessary materials and documents.

Art. 34. A member of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR may not be prosecuted or arrested without the consent of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR, or, when the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR is not in session, without the consent of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR.

[Lithuanian Constitution as of April 7, 1948]

643 Art. 35. On the expiration of the term of office of the Supreme Soviet of
644 the Lithuanian SSR, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR orders new elections to be held within a period not exceeding two months from the date of expiration of the term of office of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR.

Art. 36. On the expiration of the term of office of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR retains its powers until the newly-elected Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR shall have formed a new Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR.

Art. 37. The newly-elected Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR is convened by the outgoing Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR not later than three months after the elections.

645 [644] Art. 38. The Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR appoints the Government of the Lithuanian SSR, namely, the Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR.

Chapter IV. The Organs of State Administration of the Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic

Art. 39. The highest executive and administrative organ of state power of the Lithuanian SSR is the Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR.

Art. 40. The Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR is responsible and accountable to the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR, or, in the intervals between sessions of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR, to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR.

Art. 41. The Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR issues decisions and orders on the basis and in pursuance of the laws in operation of the USSR and the Lithuanian SSR, and of the decisions and orders of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, and verifies their execution.

Art. 42. Decisions and orders of the Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR are binding throughout the territory of the Lithuanian SSR.

Art. 43. The Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR:

a) Coordinates and directs the work of Republican and Union-Republican Ministries of the Lithuanian SSR and of other institutions under its jurisdiction; coordinates and directs the work of the authorised representatives of all-Union Ministries;

b) Prepares the national-economic plan of the Lithuanian SSR, transmits it to the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR for its approval and adopts measures to carry it out;

c) Prepares the state budget of the Lithuanian SSR and draws up the local budgets of the Lithuanian SSR; transmits the state budget to the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR for its approval and adopts measures for the fulfilment of the state and local budgets of the Lithuanian SSR;

d) Adopts measures for the maintenance of public order, for the protection of the interests of the state, and for the safeguarding of the rights of citizens;

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e) Directs and verifies the work of the Executive Committees of the district Soviets of Working People's Deputies;

f) Sets up, whenever necessary, special Committees and Central Administrations under the Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR for economic and cultural affairs;

g) Exercises guidance in the sphere of the relations of the Lithuanian SSR with foreign states, on the basis of the general procedure established by the USSR governing the relations of Union Republics with foreign states;

h) Directs the organization of the military formations of the Lithuanian SSR.

Art. 44. The Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR has the right to annul orders and instructions of the Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR, decisions and orders of Executive Committees of district and city Soviets of Working People's Deputies and likewise to suspend decisions and orders of district and city Soviets of Working People's Deputies.

Art. 45. The Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR is appointed by the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR and consists of:

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR;
The Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR;
The Chairman of the State Planning Commission of the Lithuanian SSR;
The Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR;
The Chief of the Arts Administration;
The Chairman of the Committee on Cultural and Educational Institutions.

Art. 46. The Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR direct the branches of state administration which come within the jurisdiction of the Lithuanian SSR.

Art. 47. The Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR, within the limits of the jurisdiction of their respective Ministries, issue orders and instructions on the basis and in pursuance of the laws in operation of the USSR and the Lithuanian SSR, of the decisions and orders of the Council of Ministers of the USSR and of the Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR and of the orders and instructions of the Union-Republican Ministries of the USSR, and verify their execution.

Art. 48. The Ministries of the Lithuanian SSR are either Union-Republican or Republican Ministries.

The following Ministries of the Lithuanian SSR are Union-Republican:
The Ministry of Internal Affairs
The Ministry of the Armed Forces
The Ministry of State Security
The Ministry of State Control
The Ministry of Public Health
The Ministry of Foreign Affairs
The Ministry of Cinematography
The Ministry of Light Industry
The Ministry of the Timber Industry
The Ministry of Forestry
The Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Industry
The Ministry of the Food Industry

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The Ministry of the Building Materials Industry
The Ministry of the Fish Industry
The Ministry of Agriculture
The Ministry of State Farms
The Ministry of Trade
The Ministry of Finance
The Ministry of Justice;

The following Ministries of the Lithuanian SSR are Republican:
The Ministry of the Municipal Economy
The Ministry of Local Industry
The Ministry of Construction
The Ministry of Education
The Ministry of Social Maintenance.

Art. 49. Each Union-Republican Ministry of the Lithuanian SSR directs the branch of state administration of the Lithuanian SSR entrusted to it, with the exception of only a limited number of enterprises, according to a list confirmed by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, and is subordinate both to the Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR and the corresponding Union-Republican Ministry of the USSR.

Art. 50. Each Republican Ministry of the Lithuanian SSR directs the branch of state administration entrusted to it and is directly subordinate to the Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR.

Art. 51. The Government of the Lithuanian SSR or a Minister of the Lithuanian SSR to whom a question of a member of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR is addressed must give a verbal or written reply in the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR within a period not exceeding three days.

Chapter V. The Local Organs of State Power

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Art. 52. The organs of state power in districts, cities, volosts, small towns and apilinki are the Soviets of Working People's Deputies.

Art. 53. The Soviets of Working People's Deputies of districts, cities, volosts, small towns and apilinki are elected by the working people of the respective districts, cities, volosts, small towns and apilinki for a term of two years.

Art. 54. The Soviets of Working People's Deputies of districts, cities, volosts, small towns and apilinki direct cultural, political and economic affairs on their territory, draw up the local budgets, direct the work of the organs of administration subordinate to them, ensure the maintenance of public order, assist in strengthening the defensive capacity of the country and ensure the observance of the laws and the protection of the rights of citizens.

Art. 55. The Soviets of Working People's Deputies adopt decisions and issue orders within the limits of the powers vested in them by the laws of the USSR and the Lithuanian SSR.

Art. 56. The executive and administrative organ of the Soviet of Working People's Deputies of districts, cities, volosts, small towns and apilinki is the Executive Committee elected by it, consisting of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman a Secretary and members.

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[625] Art. 67. The all-Union Ministries, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the
631 Lithuanian SSR and the Ministry of State Security of the Lithuanian SSR set up their Administrations under the district Soviets of Working People's Deputies in accordance with the conditions of the district and on the basis of the laws of the USSR and of the Lithuanian SSR.

Art. 68. The Departments and Administrations of the Executive Committees of the district Soviets of Working People's Deputies are subordinate in their activities both to the district Soviets of Working People's Deputies and their Executive Committees and to the corresponding Ministries of the Lithuanian SSR.

633 Art. 69. The city Soviets of Working People's Deputies set up the following Departments of their Executive Committees:

- a Department of Public Health
- a Department of the Municipal Economy
- a Department of Cultural and Educational Work
- a Department of Public Education
- a General Department
- a Department of Social Maintenance
- a Department of Trade
- a Department of Finance
- a Planning Commission
- a Cadres Sector

under the Chairman of the Executive Committee and, in addition, in accordance with the specific features of the city's industry and its suburban and municipal economy,

- a Department of Local Industry and
- a Department of Agriculture.

Art. 70. The Departments of the Executive Committees of the city Soviets of Working People's Deputies are subordinate in their activities both to the respective city Soviets of Working People's Deputies and their Executive Committees and to the corresponding Departments of the Executive Committees of the district Soviets of Working People's Deputies.

Art. 71. The Departments of the Executive Committees of the Vilnius, Kaunas, Klaipeda, Shyaulyai and Panevezhis city Soviets of Working People's Deputies are subordinate in their activities both to the Soviets of Working People's Deputies of these cities and their Executive Committees and to the corresponding Ministry of the Lithuanian SSR directly.

631 Art. 72. On the expiration of the terms of office of the Soviets of Working People's Deputies, their executive and administrative organs retain their powers until the newly elected Soviets shall have formed new executive and administrative organs.

Chapter VI. The Budget of the Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic

[645] Art. 73. The state budget of the Lithuanian SSR is drawn up by the Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR and submitted by it to the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR for its approval.

[645] Upon its approval by the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR the state budget of the Lithuanian SSR is published for general information.